Paris June 28th 1833

Dr Samuel Moore

Dear Sir

I acknowledge with great pleasure the receipt of your letter of March the 15th inclosing my designation as Assistant Assayer of the Mint for which please to accept my thanks and assurance of my endeavour so to prosecute my researches, wherever as may best serve the interest of the institution over which you preside

According to your request I send you the following copy of a letter addressed to Mr Bail Chargé d'affaires at London.

Department of State
Washington 30th of April 1833

Baron Bail Esquire
Chargé d'Affaires of the United States
London

Sir

Franklin Peale Esquire of Phila the Bearer of this letter has been recommended to me as a gentleman of extensive scientific attainments, he visits London with instructions from the Director of the Mint of the United States sanctioned by the Secretary of the Treasury for the purpose of investigating the process of coining in England. And I would be obliged to you to do every thing in your power to facilitate his enquiries

I am Sir very respectfully your obedient Servant
Edw Livingston

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

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Both letters are precisely alike differing only in the address

Rather than loose the present opportunity of replying to your enquiry on the subject of the small circulating medium, I will remark upon it from personal observation, and give you further and more official information as soon as I can address the proper persons.

At present it does not appear that there is any issue of copper coin

The circulating medium is of the following kinds

Pieces of the denomination of one "Decime" value two sous. Ten of them are equal in value to one Franc. They are of Copper and an alloy resembling bell metal, and are of the time of Louis XVI and the Republic

Pieces of Copper and mixed metal of the value of one sous or five Centimes.

Small pieces washed with Silver are in circulation, the value of which is ten Centimes or two sous. They were issued by Napoleon

Pieces of 6 Liards or one and a half sous are very scarce, but occasionally seen I believe that they are not legal, being like the following of antient coinage and obsolete

Pieces of one and two Liards equal in value to the fourth and half of a sous

The workmanship of these coins is exceeding rough, if we except those of Napoleons issue, which certainly have the best execution, but do

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was to being worn off by use.

It appears that there has not been an issue of Copper since the Revolution (1795) if we except those by Napoleon which bear the dates 1809 & 10, but as I have not official or authentic sources of information at the present moment, I do not wish this to be considered a statement entirely free from liability to error.

Accounts are kept in francs and centimes, but payments of any amount less than half a franc, are made in the above mentioned Copper or alloyed coins. there being no coin of the denomination of a centime.

I will take advantage of the first opportunity of acquiring fuller and more authentic information on the above, and the further questions in your last, and communicate them as soon as possible.

Mr Harris' application to the Ministre of finance has been acknowledged. and we are daily expecting the results.

I have the honour to be most respectfully yours

Benjamin Pierce

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To

SHIP

Dr Samuel Moore

Superintendent of the Mint

of the United States

Philadelphia

NEW-YORK
AUG

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